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LIT-130/59-199

Remarks

Entry of the above-noted amendments, reconsideration of the application, and allowance of all claims pending are respectfully requested. By this amendment, claims 4-6 are amended, claims 21-23 are added, and claims 7-13 and 16-20 are withdrawn. These amendments to the claims constitute a bona fide attempt by applicant to advance prosecution of the application and obtain allowance of certain claims. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings, and claims and thus, no new matter has been added. Claims 1-6, 14-15, and 21-23 fall within the elected species and claims 7-13 and 16-20 are withdrawn from consideration.

Election/Restriction:

The Office Action on pages 2-3 stated:

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

1. Claims 1-15, drawn to a method..., classified in class 385, subclass 12.
2. Claims 16-18, drawn to a method..., classified in class 385, subclass 102.
3. Claims 19-20, drawn to a method..., classified in class 428, subclass 354.

To advance prosecution of the application and obtain allowance of certain claims, applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I.

The Office Action on page 4 further stated:

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This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: content of plurality of voids comprising different materials (microballoons, fibers, etc.,) and steps of introducing voids.

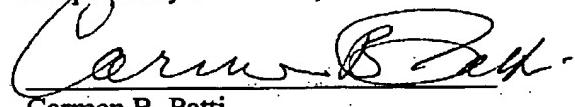
Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently claims 1 and 16 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added.

To advance prosecution of the application and obtain allowance of certain claims, applicants elect the claims relating to voids generally and the claims of the species relating to microballoons, with claims 1-6, 14-15, and 21-23 presented herewith falling within the elected claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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